GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2162
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2016
Waterways
Girri Shri Maheish

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the detailed development action plan for development of all identified 106 waterways to be developed as National Waterways has been prepared;
(b) if so, the details thereof with expected time-frame of completion of each project;
(c) whether the Government has carried out any study which compares use of waterways as medium of transportation with Railways and road with respect to its cost effectiveness and effect on environment; and
(d) if so, the details and the findings thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b): The National Waterways Bill, 2015 to declare 106 additional National Waterways has been passed by the LokSabha during the Winter Session, 2015 and is expected to be taken up for consideration by the RajyaSabha in the Budget Session, 2016.

The process for preparation of Techno-Economic Feasibility Studies/ Detailed Project Reports for the proposed 106 additional National Waterways has been initiated. An action plan for development of these 106 waterways and expected time frame for the completion of projects on them would be prepared after completion of the studies, analysis of the reports submitted and availability of resources.
(c)&(d):Based on the available information, some of the important benefits of Inland Water Transport (IWT) as compared to rail and road transportation are as under :

(i) Cost saving and fuel efficiency
a) 1 Litre of fuel moves, 24 tonne - km on road, 95 tonne-km on rail and 215 tonne-km on IWT.
b) 1 HP moves 150 kg. on road, 500 kg. on rail, and 4000 kg. on water.
c) The cost of transportation of 1 tonne-km by IWT is Rs. 0.78, by
railways it is Rs.0.94 and by road it is Rs. 3.04.

(ii) Environmental Benefits
a) Least fuel consumption per tonne − km by IWT.
b) Least CO_2 emission as compared to other modes.
c) Least land requirement.
d) Comparatively safe mode for hazardous and over dimensional cargo.

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